

## **SPLIT SAMPLING AS AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO PERFORMING DATA VALIDATION**

*In the absence of performing data validation (which can be cost prohibitive for small numbers of samples analyzed) a percentage of split samples can be collected and analyzed at another laboratory to confirm accuracy. **This, however, should be approved by ADEQ in advance to ensure that project requirements can still be achieved.** The decision to allow split sampling as an alternative to data validation must be made on a case-by-case basis. The Agency stresses that analyzing split samples should not be viewed as an equivalent substitution for performing data validation. There are, however, conceivably various sites in which the data quality objectives (DQOs) would not be seriously compromised if split samples were analyzed either in lieu of or in conjunction with performing data validation.*

*As the number of samples collected increases, the rationale for analyzing split samples as an alternative to performing data validation must also become more compelling.*

*With prior approval from ADEQ, the QAPP must document the number of samples to be collected and the percentage of split samples anticipated for the project. State the rationale if the percentage of split samples recommended differs from the number of samples collected. Recommended percentages are as follows:*

- ' 1-10 samples collected (100% splits)*
- ' 11-20 samples collected (50% splits)*
- ' 21-35 samples collected (35% splits)*
- ' 36-50 samples collected (25% splits)*